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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/814,191	04/01/2004	Satoru Kotani	2004_0502A	6455

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WASHINGTON, DC 20006-1021

EXAMINER

TUNG, KEE M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2676

DATE MAILED: 05/31/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/814,191

Applicant(s)

KOTANI ET AL.

Examiner

Kee M Tung

Art Unit

2676

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 9 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/29/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's admitted Prior Art, (Fig. 9(a) of the drawings and the respective areas of the specification, hereinafter "Prior Art") in view of Ishii et al (5,251,293 hereinafter "Ishii").

Prior Art teaches an on-screen display device (Fig. 9(a)) for displaying desired characters on a display, data of the characters comprising character codes that indicate types of the characters, or attribute codes that indicate modification display of the characters and character codes that indicate types of the characters, including a video RAM (200) that holds the character data of the desired characters that are to be displayed on the display; a display character setting unit (100) for writing the character data at predetermined positions in the video RAM; a character code buffer (500) for storing the character codes included in the character data that are outputted from the video RAM; a character generator ROM (400) for creating font data corresponding to the character codes; and a display control unit (300) for reading the character codes included in the character data that are outputted from the video RAM, from the character code buffer, and generating a desired on-screen output signal on the basis of the font data that are outputted from the character generator ROM and the attribute

codes outputted from the attribute code buffer. It is noted that Prior Art fails to explicitly teach or suggest of use a separate buffer for storing attribute codes. He used a single buffer 500 to store character data, which includes both character codes, and attribute codes. Ishii teaches a character display apparatus (Fig. 1) comprising a VRAM (3) includes a separate memory sections for storing character codes (3a) and attribute codes (3b) and buffers or latches for storing attribute data (21) reads from VRAM 3b and character codes (22a and 22b) from VRAM 3a. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the present invention was made to combine the teachings of separate buffers of Ishii into the system of single buffer of Prior Art because a separate buffer provides more effective and efficient access to the buffers by the display control unit and thus increase the speed of the overall character generating and displaying system. Therefore, at least claim 8 would have been obvious.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-7 are allowed.
4. Claim 9 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art made of record fails to anticipate or make obvious the claimed invention. Specifically, the prior art fails to teach or suggest, in combination with the remaining elements, a on-screen display apparatus comprising a first buffer that reads r


($1 < r < R$) bits of respective m pieces of the character data selected from among M pieces of the character data ... and a second buffer that stores remaining $(R-r)$ bits of the respective m pieces of the character data as recited in claim 1; and the attribute codes included in the character data that are outputted from the video RAM indicate a start position of application of attributes, and an end position of application of attributes or the number of characters to which the attributes are applied as recited in claim 9.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kee M Tung whose telephone number is 571-272-7794. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday - Friday from 5:30 am - 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Bella can be reached on 571-272-7778. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Kee M Tung
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2676